

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-06 ACDA-19 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01

MC-02 NSF-04 IO-14 NASA-04 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

/127 W

----- 012039

O R 090830Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2970

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 2127

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PINR, AS, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH JOINT SOVIET-AUSTRALIAN
OPTICAL TRACKING STATION

REF: CANBERRA 1966

1. FOREIGN AFFAIRS PERMANENT SECRETARY ALAN RENOUF HAS JUST
CALLED TO SAY PRIME MINISTER WILL ANNOUNCE IN PARLIAMENT
TOMORROW THAT GOA HAS REJECTED SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR JOINT SPACE
RESEARCH FACILITY.

2. COMMENT: A CYNIC MIGHT SAY THAT PROSPECT OF NATIONAL
ELECTIONS MAY 18 HAS STIMULATED THIS QUICK ANNOUNCEMENT AS WELL
AS DEFMIN BARNARD'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF MILITARY HARDWARE PROCUREMENT
AND PM'S EXTREMELY WARM REMARKS (REPORTED SEPARATELY)
ABOUT US ALLIANCE DURING A SPEECH EARLIER TODAY. IN ANY CASE
THIS IS A MOST WELCOME OUTCOME. WE SHOULD BE GRATIFIED IF THE
LABOR PARTY'S ASSESSMENT OF AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC ATTITUDES LEADS
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WHITLAM TO THIS PROTESTATION OF HIS PRO-WEST, PRO-US STANCE

BEFORE AN ELECTION.
GREEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, TRACKING STATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CANBER02127
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740080-0764
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740456/aaaabzyb.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: CANBERRA 1966
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH JOINT SOVIET-AUSTRALIAN OPTICAL TRACKING STATION
TAGS: MARR, PINR, AS, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005